

Application Number: 10/566,339
Amendment Dated: November 26, 2010
Office Action Dated: May 25, 2010

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action dated May 25, 2010 for which a three (3) month period of response was given. A Petition and fee for a three (3) month extension of time accompany this paper. Since, November 25, 2010 was Thanksgiving Day (a Federal Holiday), this paper and any accompanying papers are timely filed on Friday, November 26, 2010. Should any additional petition fees and/or additional claims fees be due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to treat this paper as authorization and/or a Petition to charge any fees due to Deposit Account No. 50-0959, Attorney Docket No. 089498.0454.

Claims 1 through 12 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 4 through 7 and 10 through 12 have been amended for clarification purposes. Support for the amendments to claims 1, 4 through 7 and 10 through 12 exist in the specification as filed. As such, entry and consideration of the amended claims and the remarks which follow, is believed due and is respectfully requested.

I. The 35 U.S.C. § 102/35 U.S.C. § 103(a) Rejections:

Claims 1, 3, 5 through 7, 9, 11 and 12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), or in the alternative under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), over Kawata et al. (United States Patent No. 5,512,399). Kawata et al. discloses an organic photosensitive member for electrophotography that is formed of a cylindrical supporting member and an organic photosensitive layer on an outer surface of the supporting member. As disclosed in Kawata et al., the supporting member is formed of a material of 10^4 ohm·cm in volume resistivity containing a cross-linking type polyphenylenesulfide resin as a main component, and a highly conductive carbon black of 10^1 ohm·cm or less in volume resistivity.

Turing to the present invention, currently pending independent claims 1, 6, 11 and 12 are directed to various polymer compositions, and a method of making such a composition, where such polymeric compositions contain a dispersion-control agent, or non-conducting particles, and the polymeric compositions are substantially devoid of polycyclic aromatic compounds and where the dispersion-control agent, or the non-conducting particles, are comprised of platelet-shaped particles (emphasis added).

As is discussed in the specification of the present application, the use of platelet-shaped particles of the dispersion-control agent, or the non-conducting particles, facilitates the general uniform dispersion of the conductive filler throughout the polymeric composition. Since Kawata et al. fails to disclose, teach or suggest each and every claimed feature, Kawata et al. cannot anticipate, or render obvious, pending claims 1, 3, 5 through 7, 9, 11 and 12. As such, withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)/35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claims 1, 3, 5 through 7, 9, 11 and 12 over Kawata et al. is believed due and is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 through 7, 9 and 11 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), or in the alternative under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), over Creehan (United States Patent No. 5,445,327). Creehan discloses a compounding process for preparing a composite that includes introducing one or more fillers and a matrix material into a stirred ball mill and subjecting the fillers and the matrix material to a combination of shear and impact forces under reaction conditions including reaction time sufficient to reduce the size of agglomerates formed by the fillers to a value below a pre-determined value to disperse the fillers throughout the matrix material.

Turing to the present invention, currently pending independent claims 1, 6 and 11 are directed to various polymer compositions where such polymeric compositions contain a dispersion-control agent, or non-conducting particles, and the polymeric compositions are substantially devoid of polycyclic aromatic compounds and where the dispersion-control agent, or the non-conducting particles, are comprised of platelet-shaped particles (emphasis added).

As is discussed in the specification of the present application, the use of platelet-shaped particles of the dispersion-control agent, or the non-conducting particles, facilitates the general uniform dispersion of the conductive filler throughout the polymeric composition. Since Creehan fails to disclose, teach or suggest each and every claimed feature, Creehan cannot anticipate, or render obvious, pending claims 1 through 7, 9 and 11. As such, withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)/35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claims 1 through 7, 9 and 11 over Creehan is believed due and is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 through 5 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a), 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), or in the alternative under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), over Chacko (United States Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0100653 A1). Chacko discloses a resistive composition for screen printing onto a substrate. As disclosed therein, the resistive composition, based on total composition, contains (a) 5 to 30 weight percent of a polymer resin; (b) greater than 0 and up to and including 10 weight percent of a thermosetting resin; (c) 10 to 30 weight percent conductive particles selected from the group consisting of carbon black, graphite and mixtures thereof; and (d) 0.025 to 20 weight percent carbon nanoparticles, wherein all of (a), (b), (c) and (d) are dispersed in a 60 to 80 weight percent of an organic solvent.

Turing to the present invention, currently pending independent claim 1 is directed to a polymer composition that contains a dispersion-control agent and is substantially devoid of polycyclic aromatic compounds, where the dispersion-control agent is comprised of platelet-shaped particles (emphasis added).

As is discussed in the specification of the present application, the use of platelet-shaped particles of the dispersion-control agent, or the non-conducting particles, facilitates the general uniform dispersion of the conductive filler throughout the polymeric composition. Since Chacko fails to disclose, teach or suggest each and every claimed feature, Chacko cannot anticipate, or render obvious, pending claims 1 through 5. As such, withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 102(a)/35 U.S.C. § 102(e)/35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claims 1 through 5 over Chacko is believed due and is respectfully requested.

II. The 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) Rejection:

Claims 6 through 12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Chacko (United States Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0100653 A1). As noted above, Chacko discloses a resistive composition for screen printing onto a substrate. As disclosed therein, the resistive composition, based on total composition, contains (a) 5 to 30 weight percent of a polymer resin; (b) greater than 0 and up to and including 10 weight percent of a thermosetting resin; (c) 10 to 30 weight percent conductive particles selected from the group consisting of carbon black, graphite and mixtures thereof; and (d) 0.025 to 20 weight

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percent carbon nanoparticles, wherein all of (a), (b), (c) and (d) are dispersed in a 60 to 80 weight percent of an organic solvent.

Turing to the present invention, currently pending independent claims 6, 10, 11 and 11 are directed to various polymer compositions where such polymeric compositions contain a dispersion-control agent, or non-conducting particles, and the polymeric compositions are substantially devoid of polycyclic aromatic compounds and where the dispersion-control agent, or the non-conducting particles, are comprised of platelet-shaped particles (emphasis added).

As is discussed in the specification of the present application, the use of platelet-shaped particles of the dispersion-control agent, or the non-conducting particles, facilitates the general uniform dispersion of the conductive filler throughout the polymeric composition. Since Chacko fails to disclose, teach or suggest each and every claimed feature, Chacko cannot render obvious pending claims 6 through 12. As such, withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claims 6 through 12 over Chacko is believed due and is respectfully requested.

III. Conclusion:

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the various 35 U.S.C. § 102 and 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejections of claims 1 through 12 is respectfully requested.

For at least the foregoing reasons, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Application Number: 10/566,339
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Should the Examiner wish to discuss any of the foregoing in more detail, the undersigned attorney would welcome a telephone call.

Respectfully submitted,

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November 26, 2010